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(54) **Amplifying and detecting target nucleic acids using a post amplification incubation step**

(57) The present invention relates to a method for amplifying and detecting a target nucleic acid. The method comprising contacting a sample suspected of containing the target nucleic acid with a thermostable DNA polymerase and two primers that are substantially complementary to the target nucleic acid, under conditions such that the target nucleic acid is amplified. The

amplified target nucleic acids are then denatured to form single stranded nucleic acids. Following amplification, the sample is subject to a pre-detection incubation step. The sample is incubated for between 1 second and 30 minutes at between 95°C and 120°C to inactivate said polymerization agent. Finally, the presence or absence of the amplified target nucleic acids is determined.

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 97 30 1591

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 1 February 1999	Examiner REUTER, U
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